

REMARKS

The Office action of October 3, 2003, have been carefully considered.

Objection has been raised to the specification on the basis that on page 14, line 18, "4" should be "24." This correction has been made, and standard subject matter headings have been added to the specification.

Objection has been raised to Claims 1, 2, 9, 13, 24 and 25, and the requested corrections have been made.

Claims 1 through 26 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as indefinite on a number of grounds.

The claims have now been extensively amended in order to remove the language to which objection has been raised and to clarify the claims. In particular, the term "mix" has been removed from Claim 1. Regarding Claims 15 through 18, Claim 15 has been amended to change "separation pad" to "throttle pad" in accordance with the specification, and to recite that the reservoir, throttle pad and path for forming a small drop of liquid cooperate to constitute the small volume.

Claim 16 has been amended to define the reservoir, and Claim 18 has been amended to provide basis for an extractor-forming pair of electrodes. Applicants note that both the throttle pads and the extractor forming pair of electrodes are constituted by the surfaces 6a-6b in Figs. 1 and 2, and in the claims as amended, it is clear that the extractor is not constituted by electrode pair 8 and the retainer zone is not constituted by electrode pair 10.

Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

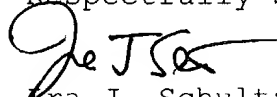
Claims 1 through 26 have been found to be allowable over the art.

If the Examiner believes that further amendments are necessary in order to place the application in condition for

allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney in order to discuss such amendments.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early allowance of the application with amended claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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